

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 35 to page 8, line 19, with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 4A-F show electron microscopy. Figure 4A shows electron microscopy of the kidneys from an old transgenic mouse, at the junction of the uriniferous space (us) and a capillary (cap), revealing irregular floccular electron density intra basement membrane, representative of immune complex for deposition and identical to that seen in human kidneys from end-stage SLE patients (Fig.4B). Intra-glomerular immunocomplex deposition in the kidney of a mouse with glomerulopathy was also detected by a fluorescein-conjugated anti-mouse IgG (Fig.4C). This was a feature not seen in aged matched non-transgenic mice (Fig. 4D). High titres of anti-nuclear antibody were detected in the sera from 83% of transgenic mice aged >20 weeks, staining the cell nucleus with the “homogeneous nuclear pattern.” (Fig. 4E). The same pattern was observed with an anti-histone antibody (huPIA3) (Fig. 4F), indicating that at least one component of the anti-nuclear antibody detected in the transgenic mice was anti-histone. Anti-nuclear antibodies (ANA) with this staining pattern are found in 70-95% of SLE patient and are one of the indicators for SLE (Edworthy 2001). Unlike the other features of autoimmune disease, ANA was also detected at low levels in transgenic mice examined at 12 weeks, and in age matched non-transgenic controls. This parallels the human situation, where up to 30% of the population may have serum ANA with no symptoms of autoimmune disease. No antibodies for double stranded DNA were seen (data not shown). No lung or kidney disease was seen in age matched non-transgenic C57BL/6 or (C57BL/6 x SJL)F₁ mice.